

[10 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

State Governments are also being requested to maintain constant vigil on the availability and prices of edible oil.

Number of PDS shops

2073. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) total number of PDS shops in the country;
- (b) the ratio of villages covered by the PDS;
- (c) number of commodities supplied through the PDS and the names of those commodities;
- (d) whether Government had made any physical verificaiton so as to ascertain the actual supply of all items in PDS shops; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) As per reports received from State Governments/UT Administrations there are 460110 fair price shops (FPS) in the country out of which 368417 are in rural areas and 91693 are in urban areas. Decision regarding opening and closing of fair price shops is taken by the State Government/UT Administration concerned depending upon the local requirement and viability of fair price shops. The State Governments have been advised to have a norm of one FPS for every 2000 persons and to ensure that no consumer/card holder has to travel more than 3 km. to reach his FPS.

(c) to (e) PDS is operated under the joint responsibility of Government of India and the State Governments/UT Administrations. While the Central Government is responsible for procuring and making available to the States the PDS commodities up to the designated depots, the responsibility of distribution to the cardholders through the network of Fair Prices Shops rests with the State Governments. At present, five key essential commodities viz., Rice, Wheat, Sugar, Edible Oil and Kerosene Oil are being supplied by the Central Government through PDS. State Governments have been advised to include additional items of daily use under PDS

taking into account the local needs so as to improve the viability of fair price shops. A statement showing additional items being issued by the various States/UTs through PDS outlets is enclosed. (See below)

The States have been instructed to formulate and implement foolproof arrangements for delivery of PDS commodities to fair price shops and for its distribution in a transparent and accountable manner. State Governments have been instructed to conduct surprise checks on FPS. Senior officers of the Government of India in Department of Food and Public Distribution also inspect fair price shops from time to time in order to check the supply and availability of PDS commodities.

#### Statement

#### *Additional Commodities Distributed Through PDS Outlets*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Status of additional commodities included for distribution through PDS outlets.	As reported on
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Iodised Salt, Nivedan Tea, Janata Sarees, Soap, Pulses, Dhoties, Onions, Tomatoes, Redgramdal Chillies, Tamarind, Vijay brand Sunflower Oils, Groundnut Oil & Garlic distributed through FPS.	8.12.98
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Iodised Salt, Tea, Pulses, Soaps, Edible Oils are being distributed.	31.3.97
3.	Assam	Candle, Matches, Washing Soaps and Exercise books distributed.	31.3.97
4.	Bihar	Introduced Pulses, Controlled Cloth and Edible Oil w.e.f. 1992 through mobile FPSs.	31.3.97
5.	Gujarat	Tea, Toilet Soap, Washing Soap, Washing Powder, Biscuits, Chilly powder, Turmeric powder, Dhania powder, spices, Toothpaste, Toothpowder, Tooth Brush, Shaving Cream on experimental basis in Ahmedabad city & Ahmedabad District & Iodized Salt (in tribal areas) being distributed.	27.10.99

1	2	3	4
6.	Haryana	Tea, Soap, Iodised Salt, Pulses and Exercise Books being distributed through Confed retail outlets in Faridabad & Bhiwani District.	22.4.99
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Tea, Pulses, Soap, Salt, Exercise Books, Janata Sarees & Dhoties being distributed.	31.3.97
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	Iodised Salt distributed through PDS in only two districts: Leh & Kargil (Ladakh).	22.1.99
9.	Karnataka	Iodised Salt, Tea, Soap, Exercise Books, Janata Sarees, Dhoties and ORS being distributed.	31.3.97
10.	Kerala	Distributed through Maveli Stores run by Civil Supplies Corporation many items.	31.3.97
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Tea, Soap, Salt, Controlled Cloth and Exercise Books being distributed.	31.3.97
12.	Maharashtra	Soap, Salt, Tur Dal, Tea being distributed.	31.3.97
13.	Manipur	Iodised Salt being distributed.	31.3.97
14.	Meghalaya	Iodised Salt, Washing Soap and Matches distributed in some areas.	31.3.97
15.	Rajasthan	Tea & Soap being distributed, Iodised Salt, Text Books, Janata Saries, Dhoties, M. box, E. Books.	31.3.97
16.	Sikkim	Iodised Salt being distributed.	31.3.97
17.	Tamil Nadu	Iodised Salt, Pulses, Tea, Text Books, Baby food, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi and Soap are distributed.	27.9.99
18.	Tripura	Iodised Salt and Palmolein Oil is distributed.	22.12.98
19.	Uttar Pradesh	21 additional commodities including Iodised Salt being distributed.	31.3.97

1	2	3	4
20.	West Bengal	Tea, Spices, Exercise books, Matches and Iodised Salt (in some areas) being distributed.	14.1.99
21.	A & N Islands	FPSs selling wide range of other commodities.	31.3.97
22.	D & N Haveli	Iodised Salt, Pulses, Match Boxes and Tea being distributed.	31.3.97
23.	Lakshadweep	Iodised Salt, Text Books, Soaps, Tea, Matches, Pulses being distributed.	31.3.97

**Joint Ministerial Commission with Israel****2074. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:****SHRI SURESH KALMADI:****SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA:****SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:****SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering a proposal to set up a Joint Ministerial Commission with Israel;
- (b) if so, the details of the subjects in which cooperation is sought; and
- (c) the response received from the Israeli authorities?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA):** (a) to (c) During the visit of External Affairs Minister to Israel in July 2000, it was agreed to establish a Joint Ministerial Commission, the details of which are to be worked out.

**Indo-European Union summit at Lisbon****2075. SHRI R.P. GOENKA:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the major achievements of the two day Indo-European Union Summit led by the Hon'ble Prime Minister held at Lisbon, recently; and
- (b) the specific areas of trade and investment for which assurance, if any, were received or understanding was reached with different members of the European Union during the tour?